

Docket No. J&J-2045

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicants : A. DeCarvalho et al.

Serial No. : 10/040,575

Art Unit: 3761

Filed : November 1, 2001

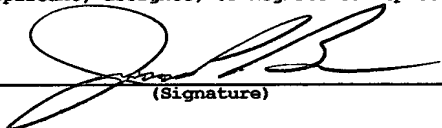
Examiner:

For : SANITARY ABSORBENT ARTICLE

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the  
United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed  
to: Commissioner For Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on

June 7, 2002  
(Date of Deposit)

James P. Barr  
(Name of applicant, assignee, or Registered Representative)

  
(Signature)

June 7, 2002  
(Date of Signature)

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

**SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Dear Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.56 and in accordance with 37  
C.F.R. §§1.97-1.98, information relating to the above-identified  
application is hereby disclosed. Inclusion of information in  
this statement is not to be construed as an admission that this  
information is material as that term is defined in 37 C.F.R.  
§1.56(b).

Applicant(s) reserve(s) the right to establish the  
patentability of the claimed invention over any of the  
information provided herewith, and/or to prove that this  
information may not be prior art, and/or to prove that this

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information may not be enabling for the teachings purportedly offered.

This statement should not be construed as a representation that a search has been made, or that information more material to the examination of the present patent application does not exist.

☒ In accordance with §1.97(b), since this Information Disclosure Statement is being filed either within three months of the filing date of the above-identified national application (other than a continued prosecution application under §1.53(d)), within three months of the date of entry into the national stage of the above identified application as set forth in §1.491, or before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits of the above-identified application, or before the mailing date of a first Office Action after the filing of a request for continued examination under §1.114, no additional fee is required.

☐ In accordance with §1.129(a), this Information Disclosure Statement is being filed in connection with ☐ the first or ☐ second After Final Submission, therefore:

☐ Statement in Accordance with §1.97(e) (attached);  
or

☐ Please charge Deposit Account No. 10-0750/        /  
the fee of \$180.00 as set forth in §1.17(p).

☐ In accordance with §1.97(c), this Information Disclosure Statement is being filed after the period set forth in §1.97(b) above but before the mailing date of either a Final Action under §1.113 or a Notice of Allowance under §1.311, or an action that otherwise closes prosecution and that it is accompanied by one of:

- ☐ Statement in Accordance with §1.97(e) (attached);  
or  
☐ Please charge Deposit Account No. 10-0750/ /  
the fee of \$180.00 as set forth in §1.17(p).

☐ In accordance with §1.97(d), this Information Disclosure Statement is being filed after the mailing date of either a Final Action under §1.113 or a Notice of Allowance under §1.311 but before the payment of the Issue Fee. Applicant(s) hereby petition(s) for consideration of this Information Disclosure Statement. Included are: Statement in Accordance with §1.97(e) as set forth below and the fee of \$180.00 as set forth in §1.17(p).

☒ Copies of each of the references listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 are enclosed herewith.

☐ Copies of references listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 are enclosed herewith EXCEPT THAT:

☐ In view of the voluminous nature of references [list as appropriate], and the likelihood that these references are available to the Examiner, copies are not enclosed herewith.

☐ If any of the foregoing publications are not available to the Examiner, Applicant will endeavor to supply copies at the Examiner's request.

☒ There are no listed references which are not in the English language.


☐ The relevance of those listed references which are not in the English language is as follows:

☐ Attached are copies of search report(s) from corresponding patent application(s), which are listed on the attached Submission Under MPEP 609 D.

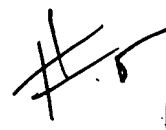
☐ Attached are the following non-published pending patent applications which may be deemed relevant, which are listed on the attached Submission Under MPEP 609 D.

Please charge any deficiency or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 10-0750/J&J2045/JPB. This form is submitted in triplicate.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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DATED: June 7, 2002



INVESTOR IN PEOPLE

**Application No:** GB 0122014.4  
**Claims searched:** 1-10

**Examiner:** Richard Sowards  
**Date of search:** 26 April 2002

## Patents Act 1977 Search Report under Section 17

### Databases searched:

UK Patent Office collections, including GB, EP, WO & US patent specifications, in:

UK Cl (Ed.T): A5R RPA, RPF

Int Cl (Ed.7): A61F 13/15, 13/56

Other: Online: EPODOC, WPI, PAJ

### Documents considered to be relevant:

Category	Identity of document and relevant passage	Relevant to claims
X,E	EP 1138295 A1 (PROCTER & GAMBLE) see fig 1, pg 3 ll 8-21 & 39-51, pg 4 ll 33-56	1, 3, 6 & 7
X	WO 01/35888 A1 (SCA) see fig 3, pg 12 l 9 - pg 13 l 4	1-10
X	WO 00/72790 A1 (SCA) see figs 12 & 14	1-10
X	WO 92/07537 A1 (MOLNLYCKE) see figs 4-6, pg 7 l 30 - pg 9 l 15	1-10
X	US 5919181 (PROCTER & GAMBLE) see figs 1-3, col 2 l 28 - col 3 l 14, col 5 ll 37-61	1 at least

X Document indicating lack of novelty or inventive step  
Y Document indicating lack of inventive step if combined with one or more other documents of same category.  
& Member of the same patent family

A Document indicating technological background and/or state of the art.  
P Document published on or after the declared priority date but before the filing date of this invention.  
E Patent document published on or after, but with priority date earlier than, the filing date of this application.